

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**5th Annual  
Chesapeake Beach Stars and Stripes Festival  
"Honoring Our Fallen Heroes"**

**Bring Back the True Meaning of MEMORIAL DAY!**

**Chesapeake Beach, MD** – The Town of Chesapeake Beach, Maryland is proud to announce the 5th annual Memorial Day Festival, Chesapeake Beach Stars and Stripes Festival; "*Honoring Our Fallen Heroes*," May 28-30, 2016. This year's theme is the American Civil War. The Festival's mission, "We will strive to educate our youth and our community on the true meaning of Memorial Day," brings opportunities to participate in both fun and educational activities and events for all ages.

Weekend events begin on Saturday, May 28 at 10:00 a.m. with an Opening Ceremony at Chesapeake Beach Veterans' Memorial Park featuring: **Guest Speakers:**



**Bruce E. Mowday** is an award-winning author and newspaper reporter. He has authored more than 16 books on history, sports, business and true crime. Bruce has appeared on the *Discovery ID* channel, *C-SPAN*, the *Pennsylvania Cable Network* and Philadelphia and local television shows. He is a contributing editor with *Business 2 Business* magazine. Bruce has hosted his own radio shows and was chairman of the Chester County Historical Society and president of the Brandywine Battlefield Park Associates. He is a board member of the Chester County Conference and Visitors Bureau. He is a frequent speaker at various civic and historical groups.

**Bradley Gottfried, PhD**

President of the College of Southern Maryland since 2006, Dr. Brad Gottfried has served in higher education for almost 40 years at several colleges in the East, Midwest, and South. He has served as a faculty member, department chair, chief academic officer, campus dean, and president. As president of CSM, he oversees three, soon to be four, campuses in the three Southern Maryland counties with an annual enrollment of over 25,000. When not working, Dr. Gottfried's passion is researching and writing about the Civil War. He has written eleven books on the Civil War, concentrating on mapping studies. Since moving to Southern Maryland, he had developed a strong interest in local history. Dr. Gottfried is married and has five grandchildren. He lives on Cobb Island.



**The United States Naval Academy Band's Brass Quintet**

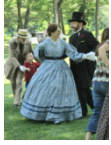


"The Navy's Oldest and Finest," has been providing music for the Brigade of Midshipmen and surrounding community since 1852. Located at the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, this premier military band offers fifteen world-class ensembles that perform a variety of musical styles, ranging from classical to contemporary.

**Sunday, May 29, 2016 is All American Family Fun Day.** Bring the whole family to participate in activities and games, chat with our non-profit organization representatives, have a free picnic lunch sponsored by Stallings Williams American Legion Post 206, listen to Civil War Era music and learn the dances of the era. You will also be entertained by our own community theatre group, the Twin Beach Players, with a performance of the 3rd Act of "Our American Cousin" by Tom Taylor as adapted by Matthew Konerth and followed by Mr. Michael W. Kauffman, historian and author of *American Brutus: John Wilkes Booth and the Lincoln Conspiracies*. Mr. Abe Lincoln will also be on hand to tell Abe's story through music.

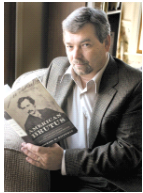
**Kaydence** - Traditional folk music including Celtic, American and European, played on guitar, concertina, flute, fiddle, mandala, banjo, and penny whistle.





**Shenandoah Valley Civil War Era Dancers** As the music rises, Tom and Lesley Mack, along with other dancers, swing into place and begin a glorious evening of teaching others the twirling, handing off, and stepping as part of the dances known to the group, ***The Shenandoah Valley Civil War Era Dancers***. The (SVCWED) have a goal that is battlefield land preservation through dance.

**Twin Beach Players (TBP)** – A nonprofit, viable and creative community theater group based in Chesapeake Beach and North Beach Maryland with a mission to promote the performing arts and culture for the residents of the Twin Beach communities. Featuring the talents of volunteer actors, directors, designers, and crews drawn from the Twin Beach communities, the ***Twin Beach Players present a narrative and performance of the 3rd act of "Our American Cousin" by Tom Taylor as adapted by Matthew Konerth.***



#### **Michael W. Kauffman, Historian and Author**

For more than forty years, Kauffman has been a fixture at assassination-related symposia, tours, and news events. He has written numerous articles on the subject, and his bus tours of the John Wilkes Booth Escape Route, long a staple of feature publications throughout the U.S., inspired the *Washington Post* to call him "legendary" in this field.

His major work is *American Brutus: John Wilkes Booth and the Lincoln Conspiracies*, which was named by the *New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and other major media outlets as one of the best non-fiction books of 2004.

#### **Dr. Duke Thompson presenting "Lincoln Lives through Stories and Music"**

Thompson is a lifelong fan and student of Abraham Lincoln. When he discovered Lincoln's extraordinary bond with music, his show was created. Duke Thompson has a Doctor of Music degree from Arizona State University. He has also studied at University of Maryland College Park, UMBC, Ithaca College, Columbia University in New York City, Peabody Conservatory, and Conservatoire d'Arts Americaine in Fontainbleu, France. Dr. Thompson has performed in Japan, Europe, and North America.



A pride and patriotic decorating contest will take place for all homeowners and businesses prior to the weekend activities with winners announced on Sunday, May 29 at the All American Family Fun Day, Kellam's Field.

For additional information or questions, contact Connie O'Dell at [codell@chesapeake-beach.md.us](mailto:codell@chesapeake-beach.md.us), Stephanie Zanelotti at [sasz\\_cbssf@comcast.net](mailto:sasz_cbssf@comcast.net) or call Chesapeake Beach Town Hall at 410-257-2230.

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